

The New York Times

August 28, 2007

Arts, briefly: “Petition Seeks to Stop The Barnes’s Move”

In a petition filed yesterday, the Friends of the [Barnes Foundation](#) asked Judge **Stanley R. Ott** of the Montgomery County Orphans’ Court to rescind his permission for the financially troubled foundation to move Albert Barnes’s art collection to Philadelphia from its original home in Merion, Pa. The group asked the court to examine possible new sources of revenue that could offset the Barnes’s \$1.2 million deficit, including a \$107 million allocation in the Pennsylvania State capital budget to finance the move; a new regulation permitting the museum in Merion to have 144,000 visitors a year, up from 62,000; and a proposed \$50 million bond issue to provide an endowment. The petition also asked that the board of directors be removed and the foundation placed in receivership. “What we’re hoping is, by bringing new information and old information to the judge’s attention, the court may be persuaded to reopen the case,” said **Walter Herman**, a spokesman for the Friends of the Barnes, a group formed in 2004 to keep the collection from leaving the building where Mr. Barnes had installed it. The Barnes had no comment.

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